

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
22 September 2005 (22.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/087854 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B01J 29/00,**
C08K 9/08

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/032535

(22) International Filing Date: 4 October 2004 (04.10.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/510,211 10 October 2003 (10.10.2003) US
60/589,684 21 July 2004 (21.07.2004) US

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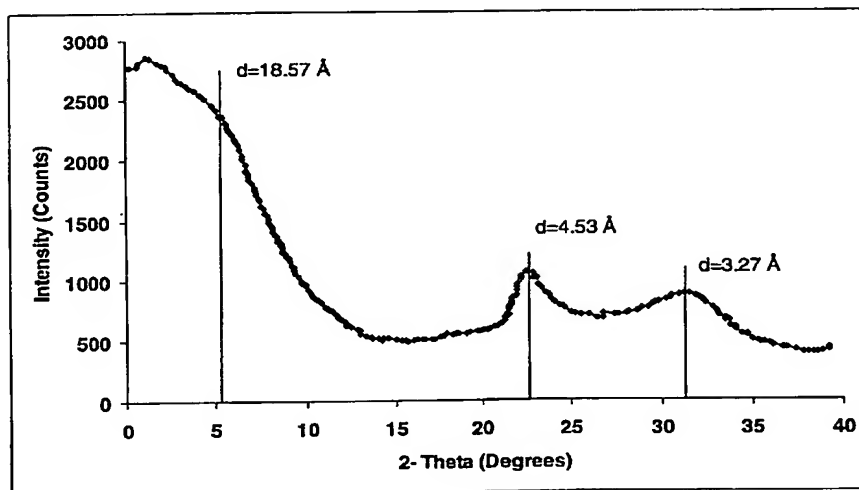
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: COMPOSITE OF EXFOLIATED CLAY IN SOOT AND THE PREPARATION THEREOF



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a composite of an exfoliated clay pillared in a carbonized matrix. A substantially complete exfoliation of the clay can easily be achieved by first dispersing the in a viscous, high dielectric organic matrix to form a precursor composite, which can then be carbonized to form the composite of the exfoliated clay pillared in a carbonized matrix. The composite is useful as a filler, for example, to enhance the mechanical, thermal, and barrier properties of polymers.

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ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
27 October 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.